

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 6, 13' and 20 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter. Please amend the remaining claims as follows:

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61 7 1. (Currently Amended) A method of character-recognizing at least one character object in a digitized representation of an image, the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the digitized representation of the image, the representation having a first resolution;

creating a reduced-resolution version of the image ~~responsive to~~ from the digitized representation of the image, the reduced-resolution version of the image having a second resolution lower than the first resolution; and

identifying ~~a value of each of~~ at least one character-recognition parameter for character-recognition processing using the reduced resolution version of the image; and character-recognizing the at least one character object represented in the digitized representation of the image having the first resolution, based on ~~responsive to the value of each of~~ the at least one character-recognition parameter identified.

2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~of claim 1~~ according to Claim 1, wherein ~~the~~ said identifying step comprises the steps of:

providing a plurality of sets ~~of values~~ of at least one parameter;

for each of the sets of at least one parameter, identifying a confidence each
confidence level of character-recognition by attempting to character-recognize from the
reduced-resolution version of the image the at least one character object responsive to
based on each set of the at least one parameter in the set; and

selecting the at least one character-recognition parameter based on of the
values of the at least one parameters in the set responsive to the confidence levels
identified.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 according to Claim 2,
wherein the said selecting step comprises selecting the at least one character-recognition
parameter a value of each of at least one parameter corresponding to a highest confidence
level from a plurality of the confidence levels identified.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2 according to Claim 2,
wherein the said selecting step comprises selecting the at least one character-recognition
parameter a value of each of at least one parameter corresponding to a confidence level
exceeding a threshold.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 according to Claim 1,
wherein the said creating step creates the reduced-resolution version of the image by
comprises calculating an average of at least one value of a plurality of pixels of the
digitized representation of the image.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The method of ~~claim 1~~ additionally according to Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

~~attempting to recognize at least one additional object represented in the digitized representation of the image responsive to the value of at least one recognition parameter identified, the attempting step comprising producing a confidence level of the attempt; and~~

~~_____ responsive to the confidence level of the attempt below a threshold;~~

~~_____ repeating the identifying step; and~~

~~_____ recognizing the at least one object represented in the digitized representation of the image responsive to the value of each of the at least one recognition parameter identified during the repeating step~~

~~judging whether a confidence level of character recognition by said character-recognizing step is acceptable; and~~

~~repeating said identifying step and said character-recognizing step if the confidence level is not acceptable.~~

8. (Currently Amended) A computer program product comprising a computer useable medium having computer readable program code embodied therein for recognizing at least one object in a digitized representation of an image, the computer program product comprising computer readable program code devices configured to:

~~computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to receive the digitized representation of the image, the representation having a first resolution;~~

~~computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to create a reduced-resolution version of the image responsive to from the digitized representation of the image, the reduced-resolution version of the image having a second resolution lower than the first resolution; and~~

~~computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to identify a value of each of at least one character-recognition parameter for character-recognition processing using the reduced resolution version of the image; and~~

~~computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to recognize character-recognition process the at least one character object represented in the digitized representation of the image having the first resolution, based on responsive to the value of each of the at least one character-recognition parameter identified.~~

9. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 8 according to Claim 8, wherein the said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to identify comprises is further configured to:

~~computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to provide a plurality of sets of values of at least one parameter;~~

~~computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to, for each of the sets of at least one parameter, identify a confidence each confidence level of~~

character-recognition by attempting to character-recognize from the reduced-resolution version of the image the at least one character object ~~responsive to~~ based on each set of the at least one parameter ~~in the set~~; and

select ~~the~~ at least one character recognition parameter based on ~~of the values~~ of the at least one parameters in the set responsive to the confidence levels identified.

10. (Currently Amended) The computer program product ~~of claim 9~~ according to Claim 9, wherein the said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to select is further configured to ~~comprise computer~~ readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to select the at least one character-recognition a value of each of at least one parameter corresponding to a highest confidence level from a plurality of the confidence levels identified.

11. (Currently Amended) The computer program product ~~of claim 9~~ according to Claim 9, wherein the said computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to select is further configured to ~~comprise computer~~ readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to select the at least one character-recognition a value of each of at least one parameter corresponding to a confidence level exceeding a threshold.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer program product ~~of claim 8~~ according to Claim 8, wherein the said computer readable program code devices

configured to cause a computer to create is further configured to create the reduced-resolution version of the image by calculating ~~creating comprise computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to calculate~~ an average of at least one value of a plurality of pixels of the digitized representation of the image.

13. (Cancelled)

AI 14. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of ~~claim 8~~ additionally according to Claim 8, further comprising computer readable program code devices configured to:

computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to attempt to recognize at least one additional object represented in the digitized representation of the image responsive to the value of at least one recognition parameter identified, the computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to attempt comprising computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to produce a confidence level of the attempt; and

_____ computer readable program code devices configured to cause a computer to, responsive to the confidence level of the attempt below a threshold:

_____ repeat the identifying step; and

_____ recognize the at least one object represented in the digitized representation of the image responsive to the value of each of the at least one

recognition parameter identified during operation of the computer readable program
code devices configured to cause a computer to repeat
judge whether a confidence level of character recognition is acceptable; and
repeat said identifying step and said character recognition step if the
confidence level is not acceptable.

15. (Currently Amended) A system for recognizing objects, the system
comprising:

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a downsampler having an input coupled to a system input operatively
coupled for receiving a representation of an image having a first resolution, the
downsampler for producing and providing at an output a reduced-resolution version of the
image responsive to the representation of the image received at the downsampler input, the
reduced resolution version of the image having a second resolution lower than the first
resolution; and

a character-recognition engine having a first input coupled to the
downsampler output for receiving the reduced-resolution version of the image and a second
input coupled to the system input for receiving the representation of the image, the
character-recognition engine for: being constructed to:

at least attempting attempt to character-recognize at least one first object in
the reduced resolution version of the image received at the first input, at least one time;

character-recognize recognizing at least one second object in the
representation of the image received at the second input; and

provide ~~providing~~ a representation of the at least one object character- recognized at a first output coupled to a system output.

16. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 15, further comprising of claim 15 wherein:

~~the system additionally comprises~~ a parameter selector for selecting and providing at an output a plurality of sets of parameters, each set different from at last one of the other sets; and

wherein the character-recognition engine additionally has a third input coupled to the parameter selector output for receiving the plurality of sets of parameters and the character-recognition engine performs the attempt on the at least one object at least one time for each of the sets of parameters received at the third recognition input.

17. (Currently Amended) ~~The system according to Claim 16, of claim 16:~~

wherein the character-recognition engine: engine additionally has a fourth input for receiving an additional set of parameters; and performs character-recognition the recognizing responsive to the additional set of parameters; and

wherein the character-recognition engine provides is additionally for providing a recognition confidence level at a second output responsive to said attempt, for each of the at least one times; and

wherein the system further comprises ~~additionally comprising~~ a parameter identifier having a first input coupled to the recognition second output for receiving the

recognition confidence level for each of the at least one times, and a second input coupled to the parameter selector output for receiving each of the sets of parameters, the parameter identifier for selecting and providing at an output coupled to the fourth recognition engine input the additional set of parameters responsive to the sets of parameters received at the parameter identifier second input and the recognition confidence level for each of the at least one times received at the parameter identifier first input.

18. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 17, of claim 17 wherein the parameter identifier selects the additional set of parameters additionally responsive to a threshold confidence level.

19. (Currently Amended) The system according to Claim 17, of claim 17 wherein:

the at least one time comprises a plurality of times; and

the parameter identifier selects the additional set of parameters responsive to a confidence level for at least one of the at least one times relative to at least one other confidence level for at least a different of the at least one times.

20. (Cancelled)